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## House of Representatives

The House was not in session today. Its next meeting will be held on Monday, May 4, 2009, at 12:30 p.m.

## Senate

FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2009

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MARK R. WARNER, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia.

### PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Gracious God most holy, the source of our hope, our Senators need Your presence and help for the journey ahead. You promised that You will never fail or forsake them, so empower them to trust You, come what may. Give them patience and make them faithful as they wait in faith for the harvest of their stewardship. Allow them to minister to those on life's margins, continuing Your work of setting the captives free. Lord, give them wisdom and courage to serve their generation in a way that honors You. May they place their lives and this Nation's future into Your all-powerful hands. Cause them to be people of faith and integrity, that we may lead a quiet and peaceful life with godliness and honesty. We pray in the Redeemer's Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable MARK R. WARNER led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, May 1, 2009.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MARK R. WARNER, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Virginia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. WARNER thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

### HELPING FAMILIES SAVE THEIR HOMES ACT OF 2009

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 896, which the clerk will report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 896) to prevent mortgage foreclosures and enhance mortgage credit availability.

Pending:

Dodd-Shelby amendment No. 1018, in the nature of a substitute.

Corker amendment No. 1019 (to amendment No. 1018), to address safe harbor for certain servicers.

Vitter amendment No. 1016 (to amendment No. 1018), to authorize and remove impediments to the repayment of funds received under the Troubled Asset Relief Program.

Vitter amendment No. 1017 (to amendment No. 1018), to provide that the primary and foundational responsibility of the Federal Housing Administration shall be to safeguard and preserve the solvency of the administration.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Connecticut is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, in the absence of the majority leader, who will be here a little later, I have been asked to say that following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of S. 896, a bill to prevent mortgage foreclosures and enhance credit availability. We hope to reach an agreement today on a finite list of amendments—the leader does.

We have been working at that, I can say to the Presiding Officer, so we can complete the bill on Tuesday.

There will be no rollcall votes today. Senators should expect the first vote on Monday to begin at approximately 5:30 p.m. Senators should note we could have more than one vote Monday evening.

With that, I see my colleague from Oklahoma.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Oklahoma is recognized.

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to be considered speaking in morning business for as much time as I consume.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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